



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICATION NO. : 10/026,301  
APPLICANT : De Billot *et al.*  
FILED: : December 19, 2001  
TC/A.U. : 1616  
EXAMINER : Alton N. Pryor

CONFIRMATION NO. 808

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**RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.111**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action of July 8, 2003, and is intended to address each and every issue that was raised in that Action. It is believed to be timely with respect to the three-month period that was set for response in that Action. It is respectfully requested that the claims be amended as described below and that the amended claims be re-examined in view of the amendments and the remarks/arguments that are presented below and be found to be allowable.

There are no **Amendments to the Specification.**

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

There are no **Amendments to the Drawings.**

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 37 of this paper.